

What is claimed is:

1. A locking apparatus having a fingerprint reader, a fingerprint verifier, and a power supply circuit, the fingerprint reader being configured to read a fingerprint, the fingerprint verifier being configured to verify the read fingerprint based on registered fingerprint data, and according to a result of the verification, authenticate a person who entered the fingerprint, the locking apparatus being configured to unlock, if the person is authenticated, a door locked with the locking apparatus, the locking apparatus comprising:

a chamber having an opening and configured to contain the fingerprint reader;

a lid configured to open and close the opening of the chamber; and

a switch provided for the power supply circuit and configured to interlock with the lid so as to turn on and off the power supply circuit in response to the opening and closing of the lid.

2. The locking apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the lid is made of conductive material and is grounded.

3. The locking apparatus of claim 1, wherein:

the chamber is formed in a shape to receive a finger through the opening of the chamber;

the fingerprint reader in the chamber is oriented toward a finger inserting direction;

the lid is so supported as to be opened when pushed toward the inside of the chamber; and

the lid is provided with a pusher configured to push the lid toward a position where the lid closes the opening of the chamber.

4. The locking apparatus of claim 2, wherein:

the chamber is formed in a shape to receive a finger through the opening of the chamber;

the fingerprint reader in the chamber is oriented toward a finger inserting direction;

the lid is so supported as to be opened when pushed toward the inside of the chamber; and

the lid is provided with a pusher configured to push the lid toward a position where the lid closes the opening of the chamber.